



I-5 Construction in Seattle and Shoreline

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Construction continues on southbound I-5 between Olive Way and James Street

I-5 makeover construction kicks into high gear this week with southbound I-5 lane and ramp closures. Crews will prepare for upcoming pavement replacement by grinding the edge of the existing concrete, sawcutting, and doing some drainage work.

Though we are taking steps to minimize construction noise, people who live or work close to the construction site may hear our crews at work. The type and volume of noise you hear will vary depending upon where you are located in relation to the freeway and where crews are working. For example, residents who are able to directly view the freeway work zone from their home may hear or feel more than people whose homes are shielded by the Convention Center, walls or other buildings.

If you have questions or comments about construction noise, please call our 24-hour noise hotline at (206) 768-9052.

Upcoming I-5 lane and ramp closures

Monday, March 28 through Friday, April 1:

In downtown Seattle, we will close the two westernmost lanes of southbound I-5, the Howell Street on-ramp and Union Street off-ramp (exit 165B) nightly:

- As early as 8 p.m. one lane of southbound I-5 will close.
- At 10 p.m. Howell and Union ramp closures will start.
- At 11 p.m. the second lane of southbound I-5 will close at 11 p.m.
- By 5 a.m. all lanes and ramps will reopen.

Friday, April 1 through Monday, April 4:

- At noon on Friday, April 1, the southbound I-5 exit to Union Street will close.
- At 10 p.m. on Friday, April 1, crews will close two lanes of southbound I-5 and the Howell Street on-ramp to southbound I-5.
- By 5 a.m., Monday, April 4, all lanes and ramps will reopen.
- Express lanes will be dedicated to southbound I-5 traffic all weekend.

- We need reasonably dry weather to install concrete pavement. We're closely watching weather forecasts and later this week we will announce whether we will proceed with construction. If we must cancel our planned work we will send you an e-mail alert.

For up-to-date information on lane closures, weather delays or other late breaking news, please visit the [project web page](#).

Keeping traffic moving during construction

During construction downtown Seattle will remain open for business. However, traffic congestion is unavoidable given the freeway lane and ramp closures required. To help keep traffic moving, we will:

- Open the I-5 express lanes southbound throughout weekends when construction is underway.
- Operate the southbound mainline HOV lane as a temporary general-purpose lane.
- Encourage people to use alternate routes: I-405 and State Route 99 (Aurora Avenue/Alaskan Way Viaduct).
- Provide driver information on variable message signs, highway advisory radio and via our toll-free **5-1-1** traveler information phone line.
- Provide extra Incident Response Teams to clear roads and help drivers.

We need your help:

- Plan ahead during construction by getting real-time traffic information from our Web site, the radio or television.
- Allow extra time to get through Seattle during construction and, if possible, adjust your travel schedule.
- Share the ride—carpool, vanpool, or ride the bus.
- Tell your friends: print and post our weekly traffic flier ([download the pdf from our Web site](#)) or forward this e-mail and encourage them to join our e-mail list.

For more information on what we are doing to keep people moving, check out the [traffic info](#) page on our website. Detours through downtown Seattle to get onto southbound I-5 are also posted on the project Web site.

Alaskan Way Viaduct inspection completed

WSDOT engineers completed our twice-yearly Alaskan Way Viaduct inspection last weekend. No news is good news: nothing has changed since our last inspection. Experts continue to analyze the data gathered during the weekend and will issue a final report later this week.

Immediately after the 2001 Nisqually earthquake, WSDOT completed \$3.5 million of repairs to keep the viaduct safe and functional and began semi-annual earthquake inspections to closely monitor cracks, structural movement and foundation integrity.

For more information on the ongoing Alaskan Way Viaduct and Seawall Replacement Project and inspection updates, check out our Web page at <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/projects/viaduct/>.

About This E-mail

These e-mails provide you the latest news and information about WSDOT projects in the Seattle/Shoreline area, including the Alaskan Way Viaduct and construction projects on I-5. Please forward this e-mail to friends you think might also be interested in our projects and construction. If you received this message from someone else, please sign up to receive it directly by sending an e-mail to i5Seattle@wsdot.wa.gov with "subscribe" in the subject line.